

August 9, 2001

Jeff Koenings  
Director  
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife  
600 Capitol Way N.  
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Jeff:

On behalf of Terry Cook, Bob Carey and myself I want to thank you and your staff for meeting with us on July 26<sup>th</sup>. We appreciated the opportunity to talk about matters of mutual interest related to the Skagit and ecoregional planning.

Terry, who is on vacation, specifically wanted me to thank you for your support for ecoregional planning. He and many others are currently immersed in planning for the Puget Trough Ecoregion, and I know he looks forward to sharing the completed document with cooperators like WDFW.

In addition, we all are delighted with your enthusiastic response to our suggestion that the Department and the Conservancy explore the possibility of expanding WDFW's land base in the Skagit Basin. As noted, Salmon Recovery Funding Board grants are available for acquiring priority tracts in the Skagit system. We look forward to discussing specific tracts with your Regional staff, with the understanding that the Conservancy could then sponsor mutually agreed upon projects and transfer them to the Department upon acquisition from willing sellers. We welcome this opportunity to work with the Department on salmon habitat protection and will follow up with Bob Everitt in the near future.

In closing, I want to stress how much we have appreciated working with several of your Regional staff during the past year. Bob Everitt, Lyle Nelson, Kurt Buchanan, Brett Barkdull, and Don Hendrick have all been exceptionally helpful in furthering land protection efforts in the Skagit Basin and providing important information for our planning process.

Again, thank you for your generous commitment of time for our meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Fayette F. Krause  
Washington Land Steward

217 PINE STREET, SUITE 1100  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101  
(206) 343-4344, FAX (206) 343-5608

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